

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 070791

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL ACAPULCO IMMEDIATE

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LIMDIS, TOSEC 201

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, GW, MX

SUBJECT: YOUR LUNCHEON FOR GERMAN BUNDESTAG PRESIDENT,
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

FOR SECRETARY FROM HARTMAN

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE SUBSTANTIVE PORTION OF THE BRIEFING
PAPER PREPARED FOR YOUR LUNCHEON MEETING ON APRIL 10 WITH
A BUNDESTAG DELEGATION HEADED BY PRESIDENT ANNEMARIE
RENGER.

2. SETTING. MRS. RENGAR IS VISITING THE UNITED STATES AT
THE INVITATION OF HOUSE SPEAKER CARL ALBERT. THE INVITA-
TION GREW OUT OF A VISIT TO BONN LAST YEAR BY CONGRESSMAN
WAYNE HAYS AND A SMALL CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION.

MRS. RENGAR LOOKS UPON YOUR LUNCHEON ESSENTIALLY AS A
SOCIAL OCCASION AND THE HIGHLIGHT OF HER VISIT TO WASHING-
TON. IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT SHE OR THOSE ACCOMPANYING HER
WILL GO INTO GREAT DETAIL ON ANY PARTICULAR ISSUE. NONE-
THELESS, SEVERAL QUESTIONS ARE UPPERMOST IN GERMAN MINDS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 070791

AT PRESENT AND THESE MAY WELL COME UP IN ONE FORM OR

ANOTHER. ONE COMPLEX OF ISSUES CENTERS ON BERLIN, AND IN PARTICULAR MRS. RENGER'S RECENT PROPOSAL TO CONVENE THE BUNDESTAG PRESIDUM AND COUNCIL OF ELDERS IN THE CITY. THE DELEGATION WILL ALSO BE EAGER TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS ON US/

EUROPEAN RELATIONS, AND WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE TO INSURE OUR CONTINUED SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP. WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK, MRS. RENGER AND HER COLLEAGUES WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY WELCOME ANY REMARKS YOU MIGHT CARE TO MAKE ABOUT YOUR TRIP TO MOSCOW LAST MONTH AS WELL AS YOUR LATEST EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE DURABLE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

3. BERLIN. RENGER'S POSITION: MRS. RENGER HAS A SPECIAL INTEREST IN BERLIN WHERE SHE GREW UP. SHE PARTICULARLY WANTS TO ASSURE THAT THE CITY CAN DEVELOP ITS TIES WITH THE FRG. WHILE PROBABLY NOT INFORMED IN DETAIL ABOUT THE CONTENT OF RECENT ALLIED DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES WITH THE SOVIETS, SHE MAY ASK FOR YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE CITY'S VIABILITY AND FUTURE POLITICAL ROLE. IN THIS CONNECTION, SHE MAY NOTE THAT CHANCELLOR BRANDT RECENTLY ASKED HER NOT TO SCHEDULE A BUNDESTAG PRESIDUM MEETING IN BERLIN WHICH SHE FAVORED CONVENING, AND SHE MAY ASK HOW THE US VIEWS SUCH MEETINGS.

US POSITION: THE BERLIN AGREEMENT HAS WORKED WELL. THE SOVIETS HAVE SOUGHT INCREASINGLY TO FIND WEAKNESS IN THE AGREEMENT, BUT WE HAVE SUCCESSFULLY PARRIED EACH SOVIET PROBE. WE HAVE TOLD THE SOVIETS THAT WE VIEW THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY AS FULLY COMPATIBLE WITH THE BERLIN AGREEMENT AND THAT ANY INTERFERENCE WITH BERLIN ACCESS WOULD BE A VIOLATION OF THE QA. EVERYONE--MOST OF ALL THE SOVIETS--WOULD LOSE BY A BREAKDOWN IN THE BERLIN AGREEMENTS AND THE ERUPTION OF NEW TENSION IN AND AROUND THE CITY.

YOUR TALKING POINTS:

--WE REMAIN CONSCIOUS OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR BERLIN'S SECURITY, AND CONTINUE TO ATTRIBUTE HIGH POLICY PRIORITY TO BERLIN MATTERS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 070791

--WE AGREE THAT THE FRG MAY, UNDER THE TERMS OF THE QUADRI-PARTITE AGREEMENT, MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP ITS TIES WITH BERLIN, AND WE WILL DO WHAT WE CAN TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE.

--WE CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL THAT THERE BE THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE COOPERATION AND COORDINATION AMONG THE FOUR WESTERN ALLIES IN CONNECTION WITH FRG INITIATIVES ON BERLIN. TO-

WARD THIS END, WE HAVE RECOMMENDED IMPROVED CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURES IN THE BONN GROUP WHICH WE HOPE WILL BE SOON AGREED AND FULLY IMPLEMENTED.

-- CONCERNING MEETINGS OF THE BUNDESTAG PRESIDUM AND COUNCIL OF ELDERS IN BERLIN, WE THINK IT IMPORTANT THAT THE BONN GROUP HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND PROPOSED AGENDA IN ADVANCE TO DETERMINE WHETHER A SPECIFIC MEETING IS LEGALLY DEFENSIBLE UNDER THE BERLIN AGREEMENT. WHILE THESE CONSULTATIONS ARE GOING ON, WE WOULD HOPE THE ISSUE WOULD NOT BE PUBLICIZED IN THE FRG.

4. US/EUROPEAN RELATIONS. FRG POSITION: THE FRG WANTS THE US/EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIP IMPROVED AND CURRENT PROBLEMS RESOLVED. IT HAS ATTEMPTED TO BE HELPFUL WITH THE FRENCH. ITS EFFORTS HAVE NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL, HOWEVER, AND THERE IS PROBABLY A GROWING REALIZATION THAT LITTLE WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED UNTIL AFTER THE FRENCH ELECTIONS AND UNTIL THERE IS A CLEAR IDEA OF THE UK'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EC. THE FRG PROBABLY WILL BE PREPARED TO WORK TOWARD A NATO DECLARATION REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME OF THE EC EXERCISE.

US POSITION: WE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A UNITED EUROPE. WE HAVE NO QUARREL WITH THE FRG, CHANCELLOR BRANDT, OR FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL. OUR DISPUTE IS WITH THE FRENCH, WHO HAVE USED THE RULE OF UNANIMITY IN THE EC TO FORCE THE NINE INTO POSITIONS WHICH ESSENTIALLY REFLECT FRENCH ANTI-AMERICAN POSTURES. THE ISSUE OF ADEQUATE CONSULTATIONS THEREFORE GOES TO THE HEART OF US/EUROPEAN RELATIONS. ITS RESOLUTION WILL REQUIRE CAREFUL STUDY AND PATIENT EFFORT. WE ARE GLAD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 070791

TO LISTEN TO ANY EUROPEAN SUGGESTIONS AS TO NEXT STEPS.

YOUR TALKING POINTS:

-- WE APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT AND COOPERATION WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM THE FRG. RECENT DISCUSSIONS IN BONN DURING MARCH WITH CHANCELLOR BRANDT AND FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL IN INSURING THAT US AND FRG POSITIONS MESH CLOSELY TOGETHER.

-- OUR FUNDAMENTAL CONCERN IS THAT THE NINE HAVE APPEARED TO BE DEFINING THEIR EMERGING IDENTITY AT THE EXPENSE OF THE US AND TRANS-ATLANTIC RELATIONS.

-- NATO REMAINS A CORNERSTONE IN ATLANTIC SECURITY. THE

PRESIDENT HAS REPEATEDLY PLEDGED THAT THERE WILL BE NO
UNILATERAL US TROOP REDUCTIONS. EUROPE MUST, HOWEVER,
REALIZE THAT WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN, IN THE LONG RUN, THAT

OUR CONGRESS AND PUBLIC WILL SUPPORT CLOSE COOPERATION

IN THE SECURITY FIELD WITHOUT COOPERATION IN THE
POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS.

-- WE HAVE A CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FRG IN
BOTH MBFR AND CSCE AND ANTICIPATE NO MAJOR DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

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